

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 14-16 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment. Claims 1, 5, 8, 9, and 10 have been amended, and claims 11-13 are cancelled. Claims 14-16 are newly submitted.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 8-10. Accordingly, claims 8-10 have been placed in independent form, including the limitations necessary to define over the prior art, including, in the case of claim 8, features from intervening claim 6. Accordingly, claims 8-10 are now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, stating that the word "very" renders the claim indefinite. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to delete the word "very."

Applicant notes that claims 1-4 were not rejected over prior art, but only over matters of form. Applicant is of the opinion that the amendment to claim 1 broadens the scope thereof, without affecting patentability, with respect to known prior art. Claim 1, together with dependent claims 2-4, is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,905,282). Claims 5 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leighton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,821,148), and claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leighton in view of Sato.

Claim 5 has been amended to recite, in part, "each of the segments configured to connect to a circuit ground via a flip-chip type connection."

Neither Sato nor Leighton teach the use of flip-chip type connections with their devices. Leighton is silent regarding the question of connection, while Sato teaches the use of lead frame connections, as may be seen in Figure 8 and in the associated text, beginning in column 22, line 16, which provides a detailed discussion of the attachment of lead frames to the Sato device. Accordingly, claim 5 is allowable over the cited prior art. Dependent claims 6 and 7 are therefore also allowable.

New claim 14 recites, in part, "a logic circuit formed in the substrate; an analog circuit formed in the substrate; and a plurality of heavily doped segments formed in the semiconductor substrate, the segments configured to form a broken line between the logic circuit and the analog circuit . . . ."

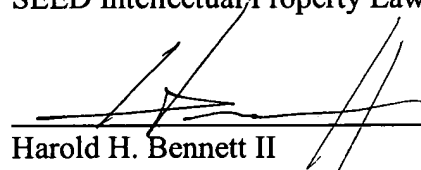
The art cited by the Examiner fails to teach the cited limitations of claim 14. In addition, neither Sato nor Leighton provide any motivation toward a combination with any other device having a logic circuit and an analog circuit formed in a common substrate, inasmuch as the stated functions of Sato's device and Leighton's device offer no advantages to such a configuration. Accordingly, claim 14 is allowable over the cited prior art, together with dependent claims 15 and 16.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,

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